

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this patent application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Johnsen et al. under 35 USC 103; Claims 7-14 and 16-20 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Johnsen et al. in view of Smith under 35 USC 103; and Claim 15 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Johnsen et al. in view of Smith and Norris under 35 USC 103. Claims 1-4, 7, 12, and 16 have been cancelled, new Claims 21-23 inserted, and consequently, Claims 5, 6, 8-11, 13-15, and 17-23 are now active in this patent application.

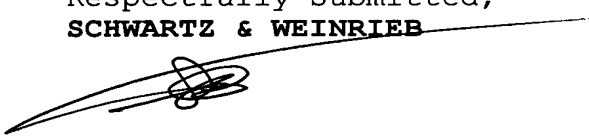
The interview granted by Examiner Fureman is here-

by acknowledged and sincerely appreciated as a means for expediting the prosecution of this patent application toward allowance. During the course of the interview, it was noted to the examiner that new Claim 21 patentably defined over the art of record in that while Johnsen et al. discloses the basic concept of irradiating bar codes or similar objects so as to invalidate the same, it does not really address the method or apparatus of the present invention. In addition, it is noted that while Smith discloses a system and a method for heating pre-cooked food or meals, it does not teach the movement of an object to a work station by a conveyor, de-actuating or terminating movement of the conveyor for a predetermined period of time, irradiating the object during such predetermined period of time so as to sufficiently radiate the same, and subsequently re-actuating or resuming movement of the conveyor. In Smith, the conveyor is continuously operated so as to achieve a constant throughput of the food or meals. Similar comments are applicable to Norris, and accordingly, it was agreed that the claims of the application as presently amended patentably defined over all of the prior art of record.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that this patent application is now in condition for allowance, and therefore, an early and favorable action to this effect is now anticipated and awaited.

It is lastly noted that this amendment is being filed within a period of two (2) months beyond the normal response due date, and therefore, a two month extension of time is hereby requested. A check in the amount of \$450.00 is attached hereto for the two (2) month extension of time fee.

Respectfully Submitted,
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